

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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**APR 08 2009**

In re Application of:

Daniel E. ALES et al.

Serial No. 09/920,860

Art Unit: 3767

Filed: August 3, 2001

Examiner: Gray, Phillip A.

For: NEEDLE SAFETY DEVICE  
WITH TORTUOUS PATH

Atty Docket: 0100/0129

REJOINDER REQUESTCommissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a request that the restriction requirement of withdrawn dependent claims 4, 13 and 21 be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that those claims be rejoined.

As the case has been allowed and claims 4, 13 and 21 depend from independent claims 1, 10 and 18, respectively, and thereby the withdrawn claims require all of the limitations of the allowed independent claims, it is requested that claims 4, 13 and 21 be rejoined to this application and be issued alongside of all the other allowed claims in this application.

For the record, the undersigned had left a message with the examiner on March 12, 2009 asking the examiner to rejoin the above-noted claims to this application. Not having heard from the examiner, on April 8, 2009, the undersigned again left a message with the examiner and also his supervisor to request the withdrawal of the restriction requirement and the rejoinder of the withdrawn claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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717 North Fayette Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
Phone: (703) 299-4090Date: April 8, 2009